GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1750
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2017
Telecasting in Border Areas
Chauhan Shri Nihal Chand

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the effective steps taken by the Government to prevent the range of signal coming from across the border;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to enhance the range of towers installed along the border and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any distance for the frequency of radio and television signals and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the proper implementation of schemes for the people living in the villages along the border?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that there is no mechanism as such to stop / prevent broadcast signals coming from across the border. Medium wave/Short wave broadcasts are bound by the guidelines / regulations issued by International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The power of MW Transmitters and their locations are decided in accordance with LF/MF plan suggested by ITU. All India Radio adheres to the guidelines and norms issued by ITU and it is expected that all our neighbouring countries follow the same in true spirit. As far as SW broadcast is concerned, there are no such regulations. Many countries are using SW broadcast to reach out to far destinations across border and continents.

All India Radio has its transmitters located in bordering areas to counter the propaganda as well as to safeguard our citizens from misleading broadcast. The list of AIR Transmitters located in bordering areas is given in Annexure - I

Strengthening of AIR services along the border areas is a continuous process. AIR has already provided various capacity transmitters at strategic locations for providing coverage to border areas. Out of these transmitters, the installed capacity of High Power MW transmitters (HPTs) is capable of providing coverage across the borders. For further strengthening of AIR services along the border areas, schemes for setting up of 31 new FM transmitters have been approved for implementation. Details are given in Annexure-II.

Doordarshan has been assigning priority to strengthen/expansion of TV coverage in border areas of the country to counter signal coming from across the border. Special packages for expansion and improvement of Doordarshan services in the border areas have been formulated from time to time. At present, 242 TV transmitters of varying power are functioning in border districts of the country. All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission (including those in border areas) along with rest of the country, have been provided with multi-channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service, " DD Free Dish". DTH signals can be received anywhere in the country including border areas with the help of small sized dish receive units.
It is mentioned that the location of transmitters, their frequency of operation and power determine the distance of coverage. It is the constant endeavor of the Govt. to implement the schemes for the people living near the border alongwith the whole country.
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